

Withdrawal of Finality

Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner has withdrawn the finality of the Action issued on April 20, 2004.

An interview was scheduled with the Examiner on July 8, 2004 to discuss the § 103 rejection. Prior to the interview taking place, the Examiner phoned Applicants' counsel and indicated that he was withdrawing the finality of the Office Action and the rejections of record. Applicants' counsel was further told not to reply to the action.

On October 20, 2004, Applicants requested and received written confirmation (Exhibit A) that the finality of the action had been withdrawn and that Applicants were not required to reply.

Applicants have not received any further action from the Office regarding this case.

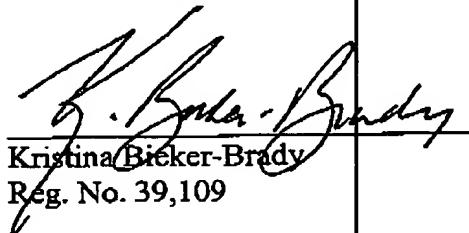
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. As the finality of the last action was withdrawn, there is no period for reply, and as such Applicants believe that no fee is necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 19, 2005


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